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Safety



**AIR FORCE OCCUPATIONAL AND
ENVIRONMENTAL SAFETY, FIRE
PROTECTION, AND HEALTH (AFOSH)
STANDARDS**

COMPLIANCE WITH THIS PUBLICATION IS MANDATORY

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This instruction implements AFR 91-3, *Occupational Safety and Health*. It establishes a specialized publication system for issuing, updating, and indexing AFOSH standards. In conjunction with the US Air Force Mishap Prevention Program, these standards ensure all Air Force workplaces meet Federal safety and health requirements. This instruction applies to all Air Force activities, including those of the Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve.

SUMMARY OF CHANGES

This is the initial publication of AFI 91-302, revising AFR 8-14. It includes changes that reflect new document identifiers, office symbols, and position titles.

1. Implementation Procedures.

1.1. Develop AFOSH Standards if:

- Federal standards don't exist.
- Federal standards don't cover a function adequately
- Determining which portions of several Federal standards apply is difficult.
- Criteria are not stringent enough.
- Consolidating information would improve occupational safety and health conditions in the workplace.

1.2. Don't develop AFOSH standards if existing Air Force directives and technical data address the subject matter or contain adequate guidance.

1.3. Commanders, functional managers, supervisors, and workers implement AFOSH standards.

2. Responsibilities.

2.1. Air Force Safety Agency:

- Reviews regulatory Federal standards and determines how they apply to the Air Force.
- Determines how the Air Force implements regulatory Federal standards.
- Develops safety, environmental safety, and fire prevention-related AFOSH standards and coordinates with major commands (MAJCOM), field operating agencies (FOA), direct reporting units (DRU), and Headquarters US Air Force (HQ USAF).
- Provides camera-ready copy on safety, environmental safety, and fire prevention-related AFOSH standards to SAF/AAIP for publication.
- Issues emergency temporary standards as needed.
- Issues changes to AFOSH standards as needed.
- Prepares an index of AFOSH standards (AFIND 17, Air Force Occupational Safety and Health Standards, Department of Labor Occupational Safety and Health Standards, and National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health Standards).

2.2. Headquarters US Air Force Medical Operations Agency (HQ AFMOA/SGPA) develops health and environmental health-related AFOSH standards and is responsible for the requirements in paragraph 2.1. as they apply to those standards.

2.3. Headquarters Air Force Civil Engineering Support Agency (HQ AFCESA) develops necessary fire protection-related AFOSH standards and is responsible for requirements in paragraph 2.1. as they apply to those standards.

2.4. Office of the Secretary of the Air Force. SAF/AAIP:

- Publishes AFOSH standards and AFIND 17.
- Announces AFOSH standards in the HQ USAF publishing bulletin.
- Stocks and distributes AFOSH standards.

2.5. MAJCOM, FOA, and DRU Headquarters:

- Give guidance on AFOSH standards to bases and installations as required.
- May supplement AFOSH standards. (For specific instructions, see AFI 91-301, The Air Force Occupational Safety, Fire Prevention, and Health Program (formerly AFR 127-12.)
- Provide personnel to help in developing AFOSH standards if requested by OPR.

2.5.1. Ensure bases and installations:

- Implement AFOSH standards.
- Incorporate AFOSH criteria in appropriate inspections, surveys, and evaluations.
- Maintain standards in applicable work areas.
- Make applicable Federal and AFOSH standards available to employees.
- Use AFOSH checklists as source documents for inspections, job safety analyses, and surveys.
- Process requests for variances to AFOSH standards through command channels according to AFI 91-301.

3. Requesting AFOSH Standards.

3.1. Request standards from the Air Force Publications Distribution Center.

3.2. HQ USAF offices may keep complete sets of AFOSH standards:

3.2.1. These organizations or their equivalents at MAJCOM, FOA, and DRU headquarters, intermediate headquarters, and installation-level may also keep complete sets of AFOSH standards:

- CE.
- DO or Operations Group.
- DP.
- JA.
- LG or Logistics Group.
- MA.
- SE.
- SG.

NOTE:

Any Air Force activity or workcenter is encouraged to request and maintain applicable AFOSH standards.

4. Issuing Emergency Temporary Standards. Occasionally, Federal regulatory agencies issue emergency standards addressing situations in need of immediate action. The Air Force may also issue emergency standards. HQ AFSA/SEGS or HQ AFMOA/SGPA:

- Sends initial notification by message to the commands that an emergency standard affects.
- Follows up with written notification (including a complete copy of the emergency temporary standard) and implementing instructions.

5. Proposing Alternate Standards. A MAJCOM, FOA, or DRU that determines Federal regulatory information should be modified for application to working conditions that are not military-unique may propose an alternate standard. The standard must implement protective measures equal to or greater than the regulatory Federal standard it will replace. After consulting with appropriate installation-level employees' representatives and resolving any issues concerning the draft alternate standard, send the proposal to HQ AFSA/SEGS, 9700 Avenue G, Suite 220, Kirtland AFB NM 87117-5670 or HQ AFMOA/SGPA, 170 Luke Ave, Suite 400, Bolling AFB DC 20332-5113. HQ AFSA/SEGS or HQ AFMOA/SGPA reviews the proposed standard for concurrence and forwards it through channels to the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Environmental Security), Safety and Occupational Health Policy (DUSD(ES) S&OHP) for approval. Send a letter of transmittal with the proposed standard. In the letter:

- Explain why you need the alternate standard.
- Explain how the alternate standard provides equal or greater protection than the standard it replaces.
- Confirm that you requested and incorporated employee representative comments. Include a summary of the comments.
- Describe interim protective measures pending a decision on the alternate standard.

6. Supplementary Standards. In workplaces with no occupational safety and health guidelines for specific Air Force activities, the appropriate MAJCOM, FOA, and DRU must apply national consensus standards or implement other protective measures to ensure the occupational safety and health of Air Force personnel. If the workplace conditions that require other protective measures are not military-unique, the appropriate MAJCOM, FOA, and DRU must advise HQ AFSA/SEGS or HQ AFMOA/SGPA and:

- Develop a supplementary occupational safety and health standard and send a copy of the proposal to the OPR.
- Fully explain why the supplementary standard is needed.

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(Manpower, Reserve Affairs, Installations and Environment)

Attachment 1

GLOSSARY OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

Abbreviations and Acronyms

AFI—Air Force Instruction

AFIND—Air Force Index

AFOSH—Air Force Occupational and Environmental Safety, Fire Prevention, and Health

AFPD—Air Force Policy Directive

AFR—Air Force Regulation

CE—Civil Engineering

DO—Operations

DoD—Department of Defense

DP—Personnel

DUSD(ES) S—Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Environmental Security) Safety and Occupational Health Policy

DRU—Direct Reporting Unit

FOA—Field Operating Agency

HQ AFCESA—Headquarters Air Force Civil Engineering Support Agency

HQ AFMOA/SGPA—Headquarters Air Force Medical Operations Agency, Aerospace Medicine Consultants Division

HQ AFSA/SEGS—Headquarters Air Force Safety Agency, Directorate of Ground Safety, Safety Engineering and Standards Division

HQ USAF—Headquarters US Air Force. The combined offices of the Secretariat and the Air Staff.

IM—Administration

JA—Judge Advocate (Legal)

LG—Logistics

MA—Maintenance (Logistics)

MAJCOM—Major Command

SAF—Secretariat of the Air Force. Offices working directly for the Secretary of the Air Force.

SAF/AAIP—Office of the Secretary of the Air Force, Directorate of Information Management, Publishing Division

SAF/MI—Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Manpower, Reserve Affairs, Installations and Environment

SE—Safety

SG—Medical